

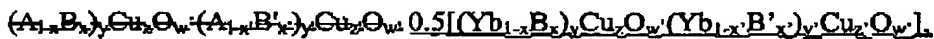
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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently amended) A superconducting ceramic of the general formula



in which $0.1 \leq x < 1$

$$0.1 \leq x' < 1$$

$$y = 2.5-3.5,$$

$$y' = 2.5-3.5,$$

$$z = 1.5-3.5,$$

$$z' = 1.5-3.5,$$

$$w = 6.0-8.0,$$

$$w' = 6.0-8.0,$$

~~wherein A is one rare earth element, and~~

~~each of B and B' is one or more alkaline earth elements,~~

~~wherein A includes Yb,~~

B is at least one alkaline earth element and includes Ba and

B' is at least one alkaline earth element and includes Sr.

40. (Currently amended) A superconducting ceramic of the general formula



in which $0.1 \leq x < 1$

$$0.1 \leq x' < 1$$

$$y = 2.5-3.5,$$

$$y' = 2.5-3.5,$$

$$z = 1.5-3.5,$$

$$z' = 1.5-3.5,$$

$$w = 6.0-8.0,$$

$$w' = 6.0-8.0,$$

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~~wherein A is one rare earth element, and~~

~~each of B and B' is one or more alkaline earth elements,~~

~~wherein A includes Yb,~~

B is at least one alkaline earth element and includes Ba and

B' is at least one alkaline earth element and includes Sr and Ca.

41. (Currently amended) A superconducting ceramic of the general formula



in which $0.1 \leq x < 1$

$$0.1 \leq x' < 1$$

$$y = 2.5-3.5,$$

$$y' = 2.5-3.5,$$

$$z = 1.5-3.5,$$

$$z' = 1.5-3.5,$$

$$w = 6.0-8.0,$$

$$w' = 6.0-8.0,$$

~~wherein A is one rare earth element, and~~

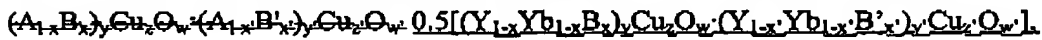
~~each of B and B' is one or more alkaline earth elements,~~

~~wherein A includes Y and Yb,~~

B is at least one alkaline earth element and includes Ba and

B' is at least one alkaline earth element and includes Sr.

42. (Currently amended) A superconducting ceramic of the general formula



in which $0.1 \leq x < 1$

$$0.1 \leq x' < 1$$

$$y = 2.5-3.5,$$

$$y' = 2.5-3.5,$$

$$z = 1.5-3.5,$$

$$z' = 1.5-3.5,$$

$$w = 6.0-8.0,$$

$$w' = 6.0-8.0,$$

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~~wherein A is one rare earth element, and~~

~~each of B and B' is one or more alkaline earth elements,~~

wherein A includes Y and Yb,

B is at least one alkaline earth element and includes Ba and

B' is at least one alkaline earth element and includes Ca.

43 - 44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously presented) A superconducting ceramic having the stoichiometric formula $\text{YbBaSrCu}_3\text{O}_{6.8}$.

46. (Previously presented) A superconducting ceramic having the stoichiometric formula $\text{YbBa}_{0.7}\text{Sr}_{0.7}\text{Ca}_{0.6}\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{6.8}$.

47. (Previously presented) A superconducting ceramic having the stoichiometric formula $\text{Y}_{0.5}\text{Yb}_{0.5}\text{BaSrCu}_3\text{O}_{6.8}$.

48. (Previously presented) A superconducting ceramic having the stoichiometric formula $\text{Y}_{0.5}\text{Yb}_{0.5}\text{BaCaCu}_3\text{O}_{6.8}$.

49. (Canceled)

50. (Canceled)